

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 24

Introduced by Assembly Member Maze

December 6, 2004

An act to add Section 4810 to the Fish and Game Code, relating to mountain lions.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 24, as introduced, Maze. Mountain lions: license tags.

Proposition 117, an initiative measure approved by the electors at the June 5, 1990, primary election, enacted the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. The act protects the mountain lion (genus *Felis*) under the laws of this state and authorizes any person, or the employee or agent of a person, whose livestock or other property is being or has been injured, damaged, or destroyed by a mountain lion to request a permit to take the mountain lion, as provided. The act prohibits the Legislature from changing the special protection of that mammal except by a 4/5 vote of the membership of both houses of the Legislature and then only if consistent with, and in furtherance of, the purposes of the act.

This bill would require the Department of Fish and Game to annually conduct a lottery for the issuance of 2 license tags per county, for the hunting and killing of mountain lions, for each county in this state with a known mountain lion population, as specified.

Vote: 4/5. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4810 is added to the Fish and Game
2 Code, to read:

3 4810. (a) The department shall annually conduct a lottery for
4 the issuance of two mountain lion license tags per county, for the
5 hunting and killing of mountain lions, for each county in this
6 state with a known mountain lion population, as determined by
7 the department. Each tag shall expire one year after the date of
8 issuance.

9 (b) Any resident of this state, 12 years of age or over, who
10 possesses a valid hunting license, and who lives in a county with
11 a known mountain lion population, may apply to participate in
12 the lottery prescribed in subdivision (a) for the county in which
13 the resident resides.

14 (c) The holder of a mountain lion license tag shall carry the tag
15 while hunting mountain lions and, upon the killing of any
16 mountain lion, shall immediately fill out both parts of the tag and
17 punch out clearly the date of the kill. One part of the tag shall be
18 immediately attached to the ear of the mountain lion and kept
19 attached during the open season and for 15 days thereafter. The
20 other part of the tag shall be immediately sent to the department.